



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS.

7th August 1950

STATEMENT SHOWING MINIMUM NOMINAL WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND ORDINARY HOURS OF
LABOUR FOR WORKERS IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA AT

31ST DECEMBER, 1949

(RATES OF WAGE ARE QUOTED FROM THE LATEST AWARD, DETERMINATION OR AGREEMENT OPERATIVE
ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1949)

ADULT MALES

Industry & Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage.	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS, ETC.</u>				
<u>COOPERING -</u>				
Cooper	184/-	40	200/-	40
<u>FURNITURE -</u>				
Cabinet Maker	182/-	"	177/6	"
Chairmaker	182/-	"	177/6	"
French Polisher	182/-	"	177/6	"
Wood Carver	182/-	"	177/6	"
Wood Machinist	182/-	"	160/- to 177/6	"
<u>SAWMILLING & TIMBER YDS.</u>				
Box and Case Maker	157/6	"	155/6	"
Labourer	140/-	"	138/-	"
Machinist -				
Boults Carver	172/-	"	170/-	"
Moulding	147/- to 172/-	"	145/- to 170/-	"
Planing	157/- & 172/-	"	155/- & 170/-	"
Shaping	172/-	"	170/-	"
Orderman	157/6	"	155/6	"
Sawyer -				
Band or Jig	159/- to 181/-	"	157/- to 179/-	"
Circular	159/- & 170/6	"	157/- & 168/6	"
Tallyman	157/6	"	155/6	"
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKING, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOILERMAKING -</u>				
Boilermaker	184/-	40	182/-	40
Helper	155/-	"	153/-	"
Labourer	155/-	"	153/-	"
<u>BRASSWORKING -</u>				
Finisher	169/- & 184/-	"	167/- & 182/-	"
Moulder	160/- to 184/-	"	158/- to 182/-	"
<u>ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION</u>				
Armature Winder	184/-	"	182/-	"
Fitter	184/-	"	182/-	"
Linesman	172/-	"	170/-	"
Mechanic	184/-	"	182/-	"
Wireman	172/-	"	170/-	"
<u>ELECTRICAL SUPPLY -</u>				
Armature Winder	196/-	"	182/-	"
Instrument Maker	196/-	"	197/6	"
Linesman	190/-	"	170/-	"
Shift Electrician	196/-	"	182/-	"
<u>ENGINEERING -</u>				
Blacksmith	185/6	"	183/6	"
Brassfinisher	169/- & 184/-	"	167/- & 182/-	"
Coppersmith	185/6	"	183/6	"
Fitter	184/-	"	182/-	"

ADULT MALES (CONTD.)

Industry & Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS (CONTD.)</u>				
<u>ENGINEERING - (Contd.)</u>				
Labourer	155/-	40	153/-	40
Patternmaker	197/-	"	195/-	"
Shaper	169/- & 184/-	"	167/- & 182/-	"
Striker	155/- & 157/-	"	153/- & 155/-	"
Turner	184/-	"	182/-	"
<u>MOULDING (IRON) -</u>				
Coremaker	160/- to 184/-	"	158/- to 182/-	"
Labourer	155/-	"	153/-	"
Moulder	160/- to 184/-	"	158/- to 182/-	"
<u>MOULDING (STEEL) -</u>				
Coremaker	184/-	"	182/-	"
Labourer	155/-	"	153/-	"
Moulder	184/-	"	182/-	"
<u>SHEET METAL WORKING -</u>				
Canister Maker	158/-	"	156/-	"
Machinist	154/-	"	152/-	"
Solderer	154/- & 158/-	"	152/- & 156/-	"
Tinsmith	169/- & 184/-	"	167/- & 182/-	"
<u>FOOD, DRINK ETC.</u>				
<u>BAKING (BREAD) -</u>				
Board Hand	187/-	40	190/4	40
Bread Carter (1 horse)	172/-	"	153/6	"
Ovenman	194/6	"	190/4	"
Single Hand	192/-	"	199/6	"
<u>BAKING (BISCUITS AND CAKES)</u>				
Baker	164/6	"	169/-	"
General Labourer	138/-	"	147/-	"
Mixer	153/- & 157/-	"	168/-	"
<u>BREWING -</u>				
Cellarman	156/- & 159/-	"	159/3	"
Driver (1 horse)	159/-	"	164/-	"
Labourer	156/-	"	158/-	"
Malt Hand	156/-	"	156/-	"
Towerman	159/-	"	160/-	"
<u>ITCHERING (RETAIL) -</u>				
Carter (1 horse)	159/-	"	153/6	"
General Hand	177/-	"	175/-	"
Shopman	177/-	"	175/-	"
Smallgoodsman	182/-	"	180/-	"
<u>CONFECTIONERY -</u>				
Journeyman	174/-	"	160/- to 172/-	"
Labourer	150/-	"	148/-	"
Storeman	150/- & 174/-	"	157/- to 177/9	"
<u>JAM MAKING -</u>				
General Labourer	150/-	"	150/-	"
Solderer	159/-	"	159/-	"
<u>MEAT PACKING -</u>				
Capper	171/6	"	193/-	"
Guillotine Hand	147/-	"	193/-	"
Jokerman	164/-	"	193/-	"
Packer	150/-	"	193/-	"
Seamer	171/6	"	193/-	"
<u>MILLING (FLOUR) -</u>				
Miller (Shift)	186/- to 196/6	"	186/- to 196/6	"
Packerman	170/-	"	170/-	"
Purifierman	171/-	"		"
Smuttermen	171/-	"		"
Storeman (Head)	173/- & 178/-	"	175/-	"
Topman	171/-	"	171/-	"
<u>PASTRYCOOKING -</u>				
Packer	153/6	"	140/-	"
Pastrycook	173/6	"	174/6	"

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ADULT MALES (CONTD.)

Industry & Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage.	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOOTMAKING</u> -				
Bootmaker	166/-	40	166/-	40
<u>TAILORING (ORDER)</u> -				
Cutter	257/-	"	195/-	"
Presser	171/-	"	171/-	"
Tailor	181/-	"	181/-	"
<u>TAILORING (READYMADE)</u> -				
Cutter	185/-	"	185/-	"
Presser	171/-	"	171/-	"
Tailor	181/-	"	181/-	"
Tailor	174/-	"	174/-	"
<u>TEXTILE WORKING</u> (Woollen Mills) -				
Carder	145/-	"	145/-	"
Dyehouseman	157/-	"	157/-	"
Labourer (General)	133/-	"	133/-	"
Scourer	150/- to 167/-	"	150/- to 167/-	"
Spinner	145/-	"	145/-	"
Tuner	140/- to 165/-	"	140/- to 165/-	"
Warper	152/-	"	152/-	"
<u>BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING ETC.</u>				
<u>BOOKBINDING</u> -				
Finisher	190/-	40	188/-	40
Bookbinding (Journeyman)	190/-	"	188/-	"
Paper Ruler	190/-	"	188/-	"
<u>PRINTING (DAILY NEWSPAPER)</u>				
Compositor -				
Day Work	258/-	"	196/- to 209/-	38
Night Work	273/-	"	211/- to 224/-	"
<u>Machinist</u> -				
Day Work	218/-	"	209/-	40
Night Work	233/-	"	224/-	38
<u>Publisher</u> -	195/6 & 210/6	"	176/6 to 191/6	38 & 40
<u>Reader</u> -				
Day Work	225/6	"	195/6	40
Night Work	240/6	"	205/6	38
<u>Stereotyper</u> -				
Day Work	213/-	"	196/6	39
Night Work	228/-	"	211/6	38
<u>PRINTING (JOBING OFFICES)</u> -				
Compositor	190/- to 200/6	"	188/- to 198/6	40
Linotype Operator	200/6	"	193/6	"
Machinist	190/-	"	183/-	"
Reader	193/6	"	191/6	"
Stereotyper	190/-	"	188/-	"
<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING</u>				
<u>BRICKMAKING</u> -				
Burner	157/- & 162/-	40	171/-	40
Clayholeman	169/3	"	171/3	"
Drawer	175/-	"	169/3 & 171/9	"
Trucker	166/6	"	162/6	"
Setter	175/-	"	169/3 & 181/9	"
<u>COACHMAKING</u> -				
Bodymaker	184/-	"	182/-	"
Labourer	135/-	"	133/-	"
Painter	157/6 to 178/6	"	155/6 to 176/6	"
Springmaker	184/-	"	182/-	"
Trimmer	178/6	"	176/6	"
Wheelwright	178/6	"	176/6	"

ADULT MALES (CONTD.)

Industry & Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage.	Hours	Rates of Wage.	Hours
<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING (CONTD.)</u>				
<u>GAS-FITTING AND SUPPLY -</u>				
Coke Trimmer	159/-	40	154/-	40
Gasfitter	193/-	"	187/-	"
Labourer	147/-	"	145/-	"
Motor Tester	157/- to 165/-	"	162/11	"
Service Layer	173/-	"	170/-	"
Service Layer Labourer	151/-	"	157/-	"
Stoker	170/-	"	168/-	"
<u>JEWELLERY -</u>				
Chainmaker	182/-	"	182/-	"
Mounter	182/-	"	182/-	"
Setter	190/-	"	172/6	"
<u>SADDLERY AND HARNESS MAKING</u>				
Collar Maker	172/-	"	170/-	"
Harness Maker	172/-	"	170/-	"
<u>TANNING AND CURRYING -</u>				
Beamsman	179/6	"	177/6	"
Labourer	155/6	"	153/6	"
Limoman	172/6	"	170/6	"
Shoemaker -				
Shaving	180/6 to 186/6	"	178/6 to 184/6	"
Splitting	186/6 to 193/6	"	184/6 to 191/6	"
Unhairing	179/6	"	177/6	"
Tableman	174/6 & 180/6	"	172/6 & 176/6	"
<u>BUILDING</u>				
Bricklayer	198/-	40	206/8	40
Carpenter	198/-	"	191/6	"
Mason (Stone)	196/2	"	199/6	"
Painter	190/-	"	206/-	"
Paperhanger	190/-	"	206/-	"
Signwriter	197/4	"	206/-	"
Plasterer	198/-	"	203/4	"
Plumber	199/-	"	203/3	"
Labourer -				
Bricklayer's	157/6	"	155/6	"
Carpenter's	157/6	"	155/6	"
Concrete Worker	157/6	"	155/6	"
Earth Excavator	157/6	"	155/6	"
Gear Worker	166/6	"	164/6	"
Scarfing Hand	166/6	"	164/6	"
<u>SERVICES</u>				
<u>RAILWAYS</u>				
<u>Locomotive Driver -</u>				
1st Class	221/- & 224/-	£	206/- to 221/-	£
2nd Class	215/-	£	203/-	£
3rd Class	206/-	£	194/-	£
<u>Fireman -</u>				
1st Class	174/- & 177/-	£	164/- to 171/-	£
2nd Class	171/-	£	158/-	£
3rd Class	167/-	£	152/-	£
<u>Guard -</u>				
1st Class	168/6	£	187/6	£
2nd Class	179/6 & 182/6	£	170/- to 181/6	£
3rd Class	177/-	£	170/- to 181/6	£
<u>Porter</u>	148/- to 175/6	£	145/6 to 180/-	£
<u>Shunter -</u>				
1st Class	187/- & 190/-	£	186/- & 189/-	£
2nd Class	179/6 & 182/6	£	178/6 & 181/6	£
3rd Class	160/- to 172/6	£	159/- & 168/6	£

Industry & Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES (CONTD.)</u>				
<u>RAILWAYS (CONTD.)</u>				
Signalman -				
1st Class	199/-	Ø	192/6	Ø
2nd Class	193/-	Ø	179/6	Ø
3rd Class	187/-	Ø	171/6	Ø
<u>TRAMWAYS</u>				
Conductor -				
1st Year	150/-	Ø	153/-	Ø
2nd Year	159/-	Ø	159/-	Ø
3rd Year	159/-	Ø	159/-	Ø
Labourer	140/-	Ø	147/-	Ø
Maintenance Man	149/- & 152/-	Ø	156/-	Ø
Motorman -				
1st Year	162/-	Ø	153/-	Ø
2nd Year	162/-	Ø	159/-	Ø
3rd Year	162/-	Ø	159/-	Ø
Pitman	165/-	Ø	167/-	Ø
	Ø 80 hours per fortnight			
<u>TRANSPORT (OTHER)</u>				
<u>CARRYING MERCHANDISE -</u>				
Carter -				
1 Horse	158/-	40	153/6	40
2 Horses	163/-	"	161/6	"
Stable hand	157/6 & 162/6	"	148/-	"
Motor Lorries & Waggon -				
under 3 tons	160/- to 170/-	"	161/4 & 161/6(2)	"
3 tons and over	174/- to 178/-	"	172/- (2)	"
<u>WHARF LABOUR -</u>				
Wharf Labourer (Per hour)	5/3		5/3	
<u>HOTELS, ETC.</u>				
<u>HOTELS -</u>				
Barman	162/-	40	160/-	40
Billiard Marker	152/-	"	150/-	"
Cook	162/- to 202/-	"	160/- to 200/-	"
Handyman	152/-	"	150/-	"
Kitchenman	152/-	"	150/-	"
Porter	152/-	"	150/-	"
Waiter	152/- & 162/-	"	150/- & 160/-	"
<u>HAIRDRESSING</u>				
Full Hand	179/6	"	188/6	"
Hairdresser	169/6	"	169/-	"
<u>GENERAL LABOUR</u>				
<u>FACTORY ENGINE DRIVING -</u>				
Engine Driver -				
1st Class	169/- & 175/6	40	167/- & 173/6	40
2nd Class	164/- & 169/-	"	162/- & 167/-	"
Fireman -				
1st Class	164/-	"	162/-	"
2nd Class	159/-	"	157/-	"
<u>MUNICIPAL -</u>				
Labourer	155/-	"	155/-	"
Street Sweeper	155/-	"	155/-	"
<u>SHOP ASSISTANTS -</u>				
Boot Salesman	174/-	"	167/-	"
Drapery Salesman	174/-	"	167/-	"
Furniture Salesman	174/-	"	170/-	"
Grocery Salesman	174/-	"	163/-	"
Hardware Salesman	174/-	"	167/-	"
Mens Clothing Salesman	174/-	"	167/-	"
<u>STOREMEN AND PACKERS -</u>				
Packer (General)	158/6 & 161/6	"	157/-	"
Storeman (General)	157/- & 159/6	"	157/-	"

ADULT FEMALES

Industry & Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
	<u>FOOD</u>			
Biscuits Making	103/6	40	114/9	40
Confectionery	104/6	"	111/-	"
	<u>CLOTHING</u>			
Bootmaking	110/3	40	110/3	40
Dressmaker	102/- to 125/-	"	102/- to 125/-	"
Milliner	102/-	"	102/-	"
Shirt Maker	102/-	"	102/-	"
Underclothing	102/- & 112/-	"	102/-	"
<u>Tailoring - Order -</u>				
Machinist (Coat)	117/-	"	117/-	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	112/-	"	112/-	"
Tailoress (Coat)	117/-	"	117/-	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	112/-	"	112/-	"
<u>Tailoring - Ready-made -</u>				
Machinist (Coat)	114/6	"	114/6	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	109/6	"	109/6	"
Tailoress - (Coat)	114/6	"	114/6	"
" (Trousers & Vest)	109/6	"	109/6	"
<u>Textile Working Woollen Mills</u>				
Comb Minder	106/-	"	106/-	"
Drawer and Mender	106/- & 108/-	"	106/- & 108/-	"
Warper	108/-	"	108/-	"
Weaver (Loom)	110/-	"	110/-	"
Gillbox Minder	106/-	"	106/-	"
Other Adult	100/-	"	100/-	"
	<u>BOOKS, PRINTING, ETC.</u>			
<u>Bookbinding</u>				
Folder	95/6	40	94/-	40
Sewer	95/6	"	94/-	"
<u>Cardboard Box -</u>				
Boxmaker	93/6 & 100/-	"	92/- & 98/6	"
Other	84/- to 96/-	"	82/6 to 94/6	"
Jobbing Office Assistant	95/6	"	94/-	"
	<u>HOTELS AND SHOPS</u>			
Barmaid	118/-	40	160/-	40
Housemaid	93/-	"	92/-	"
Laundress	97/-	"	96/-	"
Waitress	93/- & 99/-	"	92/- & 98/-	"
Boot Saleswoman	113/6 to 174/-	"	111/-	"
Drapery Saleswoman	113/6	"	167/-	"

1. Previous rates for 30th June, 1949 incorrect. These rates should have been -
Sydney 191/-; Melbourne 194/6.

2. Previous rates for 30th June, 1949 incorrect. These rates should have been -
Motor Lorries - under 3 tons - 156/6 & 162/6
" " - 3 tons and over - 167/-